(iv) Educational/Professional qualifications of the applicants.

(v) Financial soundness of the applicants.

(3) Preparation of a shortlist of candidates after an interview, of all those having the basic requirements ftr the job.

(4) Obtaining sealed bids from the shortlisted candidates, indicating the amount they are willing to deposit with Maruti for being awarded the dealership.

(5) Award of the dealership to the highest bidder.

Closure of sick Undertakings and Privatisation of Public Sector Units

@*270. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SOM PAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to amend the concerned law to make it easier to close down sick-undertakings and to privatise public sector units, leaving it to the new owner to decide the fate of the units; and

(b) whether the trade unions have also made any representation to Government in this regard; if so, what are the contents thereof and Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUGON): (a) No, Sir. Government has only decided that such public enterprises which are chronically sick and unlikely to be turned around, will be referrerd to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) or other similar high level institution created for the purpose, for the formulation of revival/rehabilitation schemes.

(b) No, Sir.

@ Previously Starred Question 190, transferred from the 26th July, 1991.

Draft of the Eighth Five Year Plan

*271. KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of the Draft Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) by when it would be presented to Parliament for discussion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The Eighth Five Year Plan will commence from 1-4-1992 covering the period 1992—97.

The Plan document is expected to be laid on the Table of both Houses of Parliament, atfer it has been finalised and considered and endorsed by the National development Council.

Accident to Nagothane IPCL project

*272. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the damage estimated at Nagothane IPCL project accident which occurred last year when the project was to start production;

(b) whether the investigation of the accident has been completed; if no, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when it would be completed; and

(d) what is the terme of reference of investigation and what are the preliminary findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) An industrial accident took place on 5th November, 1990 in the Outside Battery Limit Unit (OSBL) of Gas Cracker Complex of IPCL at Nagothane, Distt. Raigarh, Maharashtra. 32 persons lost their lives, which included 13 from IPCL, 8 from Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and 11 from contractors, Considerable damage had

occurred to the pripelines compressors and other equipments, in the affected sector. The estimate of the damages is of the order of Rs. 50 crores.

(b) to (d) The Government of India has set up an Inquiry Committee on 14-11-1990 to enquire into the cause of the accident, the term of reference of the Committee are to: (i) Enquire into and ascertain the causes of the accident, (ii) examine whether the safety systems and emergency procedures established for the complex were adequate and were regularly followed, (iii) review the operating and safety systems and procedures for the Gas Cracker as a whole and suggest measures to prevent any other occurrences; and (iv) make any other suggestions that it considers appropriate in this regard.

The Committee has recently submitted an interim report which is being examined. A final and detailed report giving the Committee's conclusions is expected shortly.

Prices of Epiodrine Hcl and Sulphamethoxazole

*273. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the price of Epiodrine Hcl and Sulphamethoxazole fixed by Government under DPCO, 1987;

(b) when the price was fixed for each drug;

(c) what was the price recommended by BICP for each drug and when were the recommendations received by Government;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government have reduced the prices of these drugs;

(e) if so, what was the earlier price and reduced price of each drug;

(f) what are the names of producers of these drugs and what was the production of each drug and of each producer during the last three years; yearwise; and

(g) what were the prices fixed for each formulation based on each drug after reduction and what were the earlier prices of each drug?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) The price of Ephedrine Hcl. was fixed at Rs. 1300/- per kg. w.e.f. 8-6-1990 and that of Sulphamethoxazole at Rs. 340/- per kg. w.e.f. 7-3-1991 on the basis of examination of the cost-cum-technical studies of the BICP.

(d) and (e) The Government has reduced the price of Sulphamethoxazole only from Rs. 390/- per kg. to Rs. 340/- per kg.

(f) The names of producers and the production of Ephedrine Hcl. and Sulphamethoxazole during the last three years are given in the Statement 'A'.

(g) The ceiling proces of formulations after reduction in the price of bulk drug Sulphamethoxazole are yet to be notified as BICP has been asked to under take fresh cost-cum-technical studies. The pre-revised ceiling prices of formulations are given in statement-'B'.

Statement 'A'

(Figure in MT)

S.No.	Name of the Unit	Production during the years		
		1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
1	2	3	4	5
(I)	*Ephedrine HCL.*			
	Maladi Drugs	28.60	35.50	32.27
II.	*Sulphamethoxazole*			
	1. IDPL	—	—	5.22
	2. Roche Products	32.38	69.62	37.09